

For Immediate Release
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Appropriations Increased for District Attorney & Public Defender

The following items came before the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors during their October 1st meeting:

- Based on a recommendation from the County Administrative Officer, the Board voted unanimously to increase appropriations for both the District Attorney and Public Defender's office. The measure was taken as a result of changes that will be implemented by the Superior Court of California that is expected to add three additional courtrooms in the Central District location, increasing the number of criminal cases handled. \$648,000 was allocated to the District Attorney to provide for an additional seven staff members, the lease of 2,100 square feet to accommodate the additional staff, and the purchase of a vehicle. \$366,400 was allocated to the Public Defender to provide for an additional five staff members, the lease of 1,700 square feet to accommodate the Public Defender's additional staff, and the purchase of a vehicle.

"These increases in appropriations are necessary to ensure that the quality of service provided by these departments do not suffer as a result of courtroom expansion," commented Supervisor Fred Aguiar.

- The Board unanimously approved a contract with Norstar Plumbing and Engineering Co. in the amount of \$484,300 for the construction of improvements to the Grove Basin in the City of Ontario. The improvements will allow for the conservation of water and retain flows in the Grove Basin rather than discharging them onto Grove Avenue. The Chino Basin Water Conservation District requested that the county make these improvements. The Conservation District will contribute \$299,517 towards the cost of the project, while the county will fund the remaining balance of \$254,783.

"The improvements to be constructed under this contract will allow for greater water conservation and improve the ability of the Grove Basin to protect the former agricultural preserve area from flooding," said Fourth District Supervisor Fred Aguiar.

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